

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Prior to 8 March 1952, the Ziethen Kaserne, Mathenow (N 53/2 15), was occupied by a high-echelon headquarters and two signal units. A signal course was held every four weeks with 300 soldiers participating. They were detached from other units and quartered in the hall of a former inn opposite the installation. The instructors came from two signal units in the Ziethen Kaserne. One of these units was located in one building. It consisted of about 150 officers and men who were equipped with submachine guns, rifles and pistols for NCOs. Vehicles belonging to the unit were [redacted] including photographic truck [redacted] radio truck 25X1 [redacted] workshop truck [redacted] 2 kitchen trucks towing field kitchens and 2 supply trucks. The crew of the photographic truck consisted of 1 senior lieutenant, 4 NCOs and 1 driver. Four lamps and 3 cameras on tripods and 2 enlargers in a darkroom were observed on the vehicle. The radio truck had an extended rod antenna with a mast about 6 meters high and a crew of 2 NCOs and 2 EM including the truck driver. A daily amount of 132 loaves of bread, 50 kg beef and 40 kg pork was issued to the unit by the ration supply office in Albertshain. The main guard at the Ziethen Kaserne numbered 1 commander of the guard and 24 EM, including 6 sentries who were relieved alternately.
2. Ward officer at the dispensary in the Ziethen Kaserne was a Major Trapkin (Imu). The other medical personnel included a senior Lieutenant Ivanovich (Imu) as medical officer, 4 NCOs, 5 first class privates and 6 EM. The ward contained 24 beds.
3. The ground floor of the headquarters building in the Ziethen Kaserne contained several bedrooms, and headquarters offices where uniformed women were employed. The general's office was on the second floor, and on the third floor contained the office of the A.D.C. and of 2 majors and 2 captains. All other offices belonging to the headquarters were in a second headquarters building.
4. A small glass-enclosed tower was erected on the flat roof of the headquarters building in the Ziethen Kaserne. A rod antenna about 10 meters long with a fan of 13 to 15 metal rods spreading from its upper end was mounted on top of the tower. A motor kept the antenna rotating. Telephone lines were leading from the tower to the two signal units and the headquarters. Three radio men, one of them wearing a headphone, were continuously operating 2 field telephones and 1 radio set inside the tower. The soldiers were alternatively detached from the first and second signal unit.

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5. On 3 February, 300 recruits were sworn in by the lieutenant colonel of the first signal unit in the barracks yard of the Ziethen Kaserno. Officers attending the ceremony included 7 lieutenant colonels, 7 majors, 4 medical officers, 4 captains, 5 senior lieutenants, 4 lieutenants and 5 junior lieutenants. At about 10 p.m. on 4 and 5 February, groups of Russian women in civilian clothes arrived by rail. They were quartered in billets on Bahnhofstrasse previously occupied by officers who had to move to the Schuetzenhaus (riflemen's club), which had been requisitioned in the past weeks. On 6 February, truck [] hauled from the clothing depot at Bormau 125 blouses, 125 skirts, 125 overcoats, 125 pairs of shoes, 125 belts, 125 fur caps, and 125 bed-clothes, blankets and pillows. Truck [] hauled 300 liters of oil from Brandenburg/Havel on 19 February.

6. Names identified at the distribution of laundry included:

Headquarters. (The first names of all officers are unknown).

General Chianov	Captain Shvechen
Major and A.D.C. Shvechen	Captain Valenski
Major Stavitski	Captain Shmilevski
Major Ivanovich	Captain Dobshinski
Major Sergeyevich	Captain Bolashkovits
Major (air force) Uban	Captain Zolavenov
Major Georgi	Lieutenant Zaltsa
Major Shuling	Lieutenant Valonya
Major Hierut	Lieutenant Antonovich
	Lieutenant Prushek

First signal unit. (First names listed if known)

Major Maryevski, commanding officer	Captain Biotsovski
Major Kripanov, instructor	Lieutenant Vazekie
Major Dovgi, quartermaster	Lieutenant Turkenyev
Major Denshek, supply officer	Lieutenant Yuri
Major Vladimir Georgi	Lieutenant Shvechen
Captain Anton Krylov	
Captain Tsoryenski	
Captain Miklukhov Maklai	

The general rode in sedan [] *

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8. About 21 officers riding in seven sedans were said to have attended a headquarters briefing at Neuruppin on 3 and 4 March. At 12:30 p.m. on 4 March, 35 Soviet women wearing civilian clothes arrived at the Rathenow railroad station. They were sworn in in the gymnasium of the Ziethen Kaserno at 9 a.m. on 8 March.

9. On 7 March, Major Dovgi (fnu) was ordered to procure 26 tents, and 254 wooden wedges for use in entraining vehicles. Four tons of straw were also kept ready. According to Major Dovgi (fnu), the loading was scheduled for the night of 8 March. [] *

10. The following documents and material were found on a garbage dump in the Ziethen Kaserno on 9 February:

a. A fragment of an envelope addressed to a soldier of Unit []

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14 December 1951, examined by Censorship Office [] stamped [] and mailed from Pavlovsk, Leningrad Oblast.

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- c. A sticker of the NTZ Emigrant Organization showing a soldier of the Soviet Army and the following slogan: We will liberate Russia from the chains of Bolshevism.
- d. Three empty cartridges. [] **

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11. Two photographs obtained from a classroom showed the same type of artillery pieces as stationed in a barracks installation in Rathenow, [] ***

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12. Officers billeted in the barracks installation were granted town leave until midnight, while married officers had unrestricted town leave. All officers were allowed to visit certain restaurants only. With the exception of the three sergeant majors, NCOs and EM did not have town leave. There was a strict ban on alcoholic beverages in the barracks installation.

* [] Comment. The information confirms that the Ziethen Kaserne was also occupied by the Hq IV Arty Corps. []. It seems possible that two headquarters units are stationed in the installation namely a signal battalion and an observation battalion. See Field Comment ** of the present report. The loading preparations observed by source coincide with the transportation of elements of headquarters units of the IV Arty Corps from Rathenow to Battstaedt on 10 March 1952. []. The officers' names mentioned in paragraph 6 of the present report are reported for the first time.

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** [] Comment. In WW II, [] the 821st Obsn Bn of the 5th Arty Div which, in turn, was subordinate to the IV Arty Corps. The division was transferred to the U.S.S.R. from the Neuruppin area in the spring of 1947. It is possible, however, that the observation battalion remained in the Soviet Zone of Germany and was subordinate directly to the IV Arty Corps. The battalion is believed to be quartered in the Ziethen Kaserne. []

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*** [] Comment. The photographs show a model 1942 ZIS-3 76.2-mm field gun, and a model 1937 152-mm gun howitzer.

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